

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 826

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the hanging of nooses is a horrible act when used for the purpose of intimidation and which under certain circumstances can be a criminal act that should be thoroughly investigated by Federal law enforcement authorities and that any criminal violations should be vigorously prosecuted.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. McHENRY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. POE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. WATERS, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. SPRATT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. WATSON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. NADLER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. BACA, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. WATT, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. DOGETT, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. McCRERY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SIRES, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. SHAYS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the hanging of nooses is a horrible act when used for the purpose of intimidation and which under certain circumstances can be a criminal act that should be thoroughly investigated by Federal law enforcement authori-

ties and that any criminal violations should be vigorously prosecuted.

Whereas in the past two months, nooses have been found in a North Carolina high school, a Home Depot in New Jersey, a Louisiana school playground, the campus of the University of Maryland, a Columbia University professor's office door and a factory in Houston, Texas;

Whereas the Southern Poverty Law Center has recorded between 40 and 50 suspected hate crimes involving nooses since September;

Whereas since 2001, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has filed more than 30 lawsuits that involve the displaying of nooses in places of employment;

Whereas nooses are reviled by many Americans as racist symbols of lynchings that were once all too common;

Whereas according to Tuskegee Institute, more than 4,700 people were lynched between 1882 and 1959 in a campaign of terror led by the Ku Klux Klan;

Whereas the number of dead lynching victims in the United States exceeds the amount of people killed in the horrible attack on Pearl Harbor (2,333 dead) and Hurricane Katrina (1,836 dead) combined; and

Whereas African-Americans, as well as Italians, Jews, and Mexicans, have comprised the vast majority of lynching victims and only when we erase the terrible symbols of the past can we finally begin to move forward: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

1 (1) the hanging of nooses is a horrible act when
2 used for the purpose of intimidation and which
3 under certain circumstances can be criminal;

4 (2) this conduct should be investigated thor-
5 oughly by Federal authorities; and

6 (3) any criminal violations should be vigorously
7 prosecuted.

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